

ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN DEVICES WITHIN A MOBILE

AD HOC NETWORK

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A mobile ad hoc network may be established between a plurality of devices that have common contacts on their contact lists. The contact lists may be conventional contacts stored in a list of contacts on a scheduling and information management or other software packages in one embodiment. Information about common contacts between a
10 plurality of devices may be progressively shared, using a bucket brigade technique of sharing information between in-range devices. Status information about the devices in the network may be similarly shared in a bucket brigade fashion. Thus, the network is dynamic in the sense that at
15 any given time, it may be determined whether any given device in the network is active. Moreover, the links are established between a manageable number of devices defined by having common contacts with one another.